Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11.   (Currently Amended) A method ~~of altering a digital music file~~ comprising:
comparing a plurality of digital music files on the basis of file name, file size and file playing time;

determining a digital music file that has a higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file illegally distributed through a computer communication network;

identifying, via the ~~a~~ computer communication network, the digital music file determined to have the higher probability of being reproduced by another user;

producing an advertising digital music file by converting a multi-channel sound of the identified digital music file to a single-channel sound, thereby deteriorating the sound quality of the identified digital music file; and

distributing the advertising digital music file through the computer communication network.

12.   (Currently Amended) A method of altering a digital music file comprising:
comparing a plurality of digital music files on the basis of file name, file size and file playing time;

determining a digital music file that has a higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file illegally distributed through a computer communication network;

identifying, via a computer communication network, the digital music file determined to have the higher probability of being reproduced by another user;

producing an advertising digital music file by inserting a noise component into the identified digital music file, thereby deteriorating the sound quality of the identified digital music file; and

distributing the advertising digital music file through the computer communication network.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein inserting a noise component comprises inserting a voice of a performer into the identified digital music file.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the digital music file that has the higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file comprises determining the digital music file to be a version of the same media represented in the other music files that has the higher probability of being reproduced than the other music files.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein determining the digital music file that has the higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file comprises determining the digital music file to be a version of the same media represented in the other music files that has the higher probability of being reproduced than the other music files.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the digital music file that has the higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file comprises selecting one digital music file among a plurality of digital music files such that the identified digital music file is selected based on having a greater number of other digital music files having two or more of a same name, size and playing time as the identified digital music file than other music files related to the digital music file illegally distributed through the computer communication network.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein determining the digital music file that has the higher probability of being reproduced by another user than other music files related to the digital music file comprises selecting one digital music file among a plurality of digital music files such that the identified digital music file is selected based on having a greater number of other digital music files having two or more of a same name, size and playing time as the identified digital music file than other music files related to the digital music file illegally distributed through the computer communication network.